

Entry of the following amendments prior to examination of the application is respectfully requested.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION" please insert the following paragraph:

Related Applications:

This is a continuation of Serial No. 10/211,487 filed August 2, 2002 which is a continuation of Serial No. 09/710,582 filed November 10, 2000, now Patent No. 6,432,066, which is a Divisional of Serial No. 09/221,393 filed December 28, 1998, now Patent No. 6,165,140.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2 - 14, without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims 15 – 28:

15. (New) A composite guidewire, comprising:  
an elongated, flexible core, said core having proximal and distal regions;  
a reinforcement tube disposed over said proximal region of said core, said reinforcement tube including a distal tapered portion extending over said distal region of said elongated, flexible core;  
a primary coil disposed over said distal region of said core; and